

22. Jan. 22.

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143 Sigourney Street, Hartford, Conn.,  
U.S.A. 26 / iv / 20

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My dear Goldyfisher,  
I must try again to make connections with you. Several times before the U.S.A. entered the war I wrote to you but my letters went have gone astray. Then after the armistice I tried again, but my letter was returned stamped "unavailable" — I suppose because there was no mail established between Hungary and the U.S. Whether this will get to you I do not know.

We often think and speak of you and wonder how it has gone with you and your family in these terrible times. For ourselves we are here as usual, but in another house, and are as well as the times permit. We, like everyone else, are very tired and worn with the long strain and anxiety — and yet there appears no end. We can only hope and pray and try to reconstruct our old circles and connections. And first among these is the link with you. I have never forgotten how close we had come to one another, how close in our work and how close in our hearts. I know no one of my colleagues to whom I had been drawn so near.

With all good remembrances and greetings and loving sympathy  
I wish us both to you and yours  
Duncan B. Macdonald  
always faithfully

And so across all those sandalwood floods  
I hold out to you my hand and ask you  
to be of good cheer and good hope with  
me again. Let us lift up our hearts' petitions  
unto the Lord for his comfort and peace.  
There is much in your Scriptures and in  
mine to unite us. In all this I know  
that I express my wife's hope and prayer  
as my own.

How has it been and how is it with  
you and your wife and your family?  
I fear that you have had very dark days.  
We have thought of you and prayed for  
you as the years passed in silence and  
longed for the time when the silence would  
again be broken. Bairdner has written  
and asked me about you and I could  
not tell him anything. His verses to you  
and your wife have been printed and  
reprinted in Egypt.

Snodgrass writes me that your history  
of the exegesis of the Qur'an is ready to  
appear. I look eagerly for it. Every year  
I have been reading here Qur'an and Baird-  
ner with increasing eagerness. Once I had  
six reading Bairdner. So you see how I look  
for your book. Macdonald writes, too, of you  
and I hope you will have a paper in the  
Browne Volume. We must recant as  
much of the past as we can.